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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/505,237 | 04/07/2005 | Martin Berg | P04,0298 | 3822 |

26574 7590 11/17/2006

SCHIFF HARDIN, LLP
PATENT DEPARTMENT
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| EXAMINER |
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ZIMMERMAN, JOSHUA D

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2854

DATE MAILED: 11/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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|--|------------------------|--|---------------------|--|
| Supplemental Notice of Allowability | Application No. | | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/505,237 | | BERG ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | | Art Unit | |
| | Joshua D. Zimmerman | | 2854 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--
 All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the RCE filed 09/14/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 39-52, 54-61, 65-67 and 69-71.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
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DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Brett Valiquet on 11/09/2006.

Claim 60 is amended as follows:

A device to generate a print image on a carrier material, comprising:

a pre-treatment device that applies a wetting-aiding surfactant layer onto a surface of a print carrier;

an image generating station in which in a structuring process what will become ink-attracting regions and ink-repelling regions are generated in the surfactant layer corresponding to a structure of the print image to be printed;

a dampening station which applies a fountain solution layer on said surface to create said ink-attracting regions and ink-repelling regions;

an ink application station wherein ink that adheres to the ink-attracting regions and that is not absorbed by the ink-repelling regions is applied on the surface;

an ink transfer station wherein the applied ink is transferred onto the carrier material;

the image generating station having a light source whose radiation is directed via a control element per image point toward the surface of the print carrier;

the radiation being dependent on a control signal; and
said ~~fountain solution application~~ dampening station being located between said image generation station and said ink application station.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record neither teaches nor renders obvious a method to generate a print image on a carrier material, as claimed in claims 39 and 58, wherein a layer of dampening solution or fountain solution is applied onto the surface of the print carrier after the structuring process, in combination with the remaining claim elements. Further, the prior art of record neither discloses nor renders obvious a device to generate a print image on a carrier material, as claimed in claims 50 and 60, wherein a dampening station or fountain solution application station is located in between an image generation station and an ink application station, in combination with the remaining claim elements.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. US 6,125,755 to Link et al. and US 2005/0115424 to Wiedemer both describe a

printing method and apparatus for generating a print image on a carrier using a laser to structure the carrier surface.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joshua D. Zimmerman whose telephone number is 571-272-2749. The examiner can normally be reached on M-R 8:30A - 6:00P, Alternate Fridays 8:30A-5:00P.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-2258. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Joshua D Zimmerman
Examiner
Art Unit 2854

jdz


JUDY NGUYEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER